

EGYPT

a. SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
I. TERRITORIAL SEA	Jan 51	Royal Decree	6nm	
	Feb 58	Pres. Decree No. 180/1958	12nm	Amended 1951 decree.
	Aug 83	Declaration accompanying Law of the Sea Convention Ratification		Warships require prior notification; nuclear-powered ships and ships carrying nuclear and other inherently dangerous and noxious substances require prior authorization. This requirement is not recognized by the U.S. U.S. protested claim in 1985 and conducted operational assertions in 1993, 1994 and 1996.
	Oct 96	Declaration for inclusion in Basel Convention		Foreign ships carrying hazardous or other wastes require to obtain prior permission for passage through territorial sea. This requirement is not recognized by the U.S.
II. ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Jan 51	Royal Decree, Article 6		General language establishing straight baselines. Bay of el-Arab claimed as an historic bay.
	Jan 90	Pres. Decree No. 27/90		Established straight baselines. These claims are not recognized by the U.S. U.S. protested claims in 1991 and conducted operational assertion in 1996.
III. CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Feb 58	Pres. Decree No. 180/1958	18nm	Claims security jurisdiction.
	Aug 83	Declaration accompanying Law of the Sea Convention Ratification	24nm	Claims security jurisdiction.
IV. CONTINENTAL SHELF	Sep 58	Pres. Decision No. 1051	1958 DEF	
V. FISHING ZONE/EEZ	Aug 83	Declaration accompanying 1982 Law of the Sea Convention Ratification	200nm	EEZ
VI. ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION	Oct 95	Declaration to Basel Convention		Vessels carrying hazardous or other wastes require prior permission for passage through territorial sea.

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
VIII. LOS CONVENTION	Dec 82			Signed.
	Aug 83			Ratified, with a declaration, set forth in pertinent parts above.
	Mar 95			Signed Part XI Agreement.

b. DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

1. STRAIGHT BASELINES

A. LEGISLATION. Following are extracts from Presidential Decree No. 27/90 dated January 9, 1990 declaring Egyptian straight baselines:

Article 1

The maritime areas coming under the sovereignty and rule of the Arab Republic of Egypt, including its territorial sea, shall be measured from the straight baselines connecting all the points defined by the co-ordinates referred to in article 2.

Article 2

The co-ordinates referred to in article 1, in accordance with the geodetic datum (Mercatur projection), are:

1. In the Mediterranean Sea, in accordance with annex 1, which constitute an inseparable part of this decree;
2. In the Red Sea, in accordance with annex 2, which constitutes an inseparable part of this Decree.

Annex 1 (The Mediterranean Sea)

<u>Sequence</u>	<u>Latitude (North)</u>			<u>Latitude (East)</u>		
1	31 d	40 m	30 s	25 d	08 m	56 s
2	31 d	34 m	24 s	25 d	10 m	48 s
3	31 d	30 m	56 s	25 d	14 m	30 s
4	31 d	30 m	12 s	25 d	19 m	55 s
5	31 d	38 m	00 s	25 d	53 m	24 s
6	31 d	36 m	18 s	26 d	14 m	24 s
7	31 d	31 m	18 s	26 d	38 m	30 s
8	31 d	27 m	12 s	26 d	59 m	06 s
9	31 d	24 m	30 s	27 d	03 m	48 s
10	31 d	22 m	12 s	27 d	21 m	00 s
11	31 d	12 m	36 s	27 d	28 m	30 s
12	31 d	12 m	00 s	27 d	38 m	00 s
13	31 d	14 m	48 s	27 d	51 m	36 s
14	31 d	06 m	12 s	27 d	55 m	00 s
15	31 d	05 m	30 s	28 d	25 m	48 s
16	31 d	03 m	18 s	28 d	35 m	24 s
17	30 d	58 m	30 s	28 d	49 m	56 s
18	30 d	54 m	54 s	28 d	54 m	52 s
19	30 d	50 m	36 s	29 d	00 m	00 s
20	30 d	59 m	54 s	29 d	23 m	48 s
21	31 d	01 m	48 s	29 d	31 m	00 s
22	31 d	08 m	54 s	29 d	47 m	18 s
23	31 d	12 m	00 s	29 d	51 m	42 s
24	31 d	12 m	36 s	29 d	52 m	30 s
25	31 d	19 m	12 s	30 d	02 m	54 s
26	31 d	21 m	42 s	30 d	06 m	24 s
27	31 d	30 m	18 s	30 d	21 m	18 s
<u>Sequence</u>	<u>Latitude (North)</u>			<u>Latitude (East)</u>		

28	31 d	30 m	00 s	30 d	22 m	42 s
29	31 d	27 m	18 s	30 d	28 m	18 s
30	31 d	36 m	00 s	31 d	01 m	42 s
31	31 d	36 m	00 s	31 d	07 m	00 s
32	31 d	35 m	12 s	31 d	11 m	24 s
33	31 d	33 m	42 s	31 d	16 m	12 s
34	31 d	26 m	42 s	31 d	36 m	00 s
35	31 d	29 m	30 s	31 d	45 m	18 s
36	31 d	32 m	06 s	31 d	52 m	00 s
37	31 d	32 m	06 s	31 d	54 m	12 s
38	31 d	30 m	18 s	31 d	57 m	24 s
39	31 d	20 m	42 s	32 d	06 m	42 s
40	31 d	18 m	12 s	32 d	20 m	30 s
41	31 d	03 m	54 s	32 d	34 m	12 s
42	31 d	08 m	56 s	32 d	55 m	36 s
43	31 d	13 m	12 s	33 d	04 m	00 s
44	31 d	13 m	48 s	33 d	06 m	12 s
45	31 d	14 m	12 s	33 d	08 m	42 s
46	31 d	13 m	36 s	33 d	13 m	18 s
47	31 d	12 m	00 s	33 d	20 m	30 s
48	31 d	11 m	06 s	33 d	23 m	54 s
49	31 d	07 m	06 s	33 d	32 m	00 s
50	31 d	07 m	42 s	33 d	43 m	24 s
51	31 d	11 m	54 s	33 d	58 m	18 s
52	31 d	14 m	36 s	34 d	05 m	18 s
53	31 d	19 m	24 s	34 d	13 m	06 s

ANNEX 2 (THE RED SEA)

<u>Sequence</u>	<u>Latitude (North)</u>			<u>Latitude (East)</u>		
1	29 d	29 m	36 s	34 d	54 m	18 s
2	29 d	29 m	00 s	34 d	52 m	12 s
3	29 d	26 m	12 s	34 d	50 m	48 s
4	29 d	25 m	26 s	34 d	49 m	48 s
5	29 d	22 m	36 s	34 d	48 m	12 s
6	29 d	22 m	00 s	34 d	47 m	18 s
7	29 d	20 m	30 s	34 d	46 m	36 s
8	29 d	18 m	18 s	34 d	44 m	24 s
9	29 d	13 m	24 s	34 d	44 m	30 s
10	29 d	11 m	48 s	34 d	44 m	00 s
11	29 d	10 m	24 s	34 d	42 m	48 s
12	29 d	09 m	36 s	34 d	41 m	30 s
13	29 d	02 m	12 s	34 d	40 m	12 s
14	29 d	00 m	42 s	34 d	41 m	03 s
15	28 d	59 m	18 s	34 d	41 m	10 s
16	28 d	58 m	30 s	34 d	40 m	48 s
17	28 d	58 m	10 s	34 d	38 m	56 s
18	28 d	56 m	42 s	34 d	38 m	12 s
19	28 d	55 m	54 s	34 d	38 m	42 s
20	28 d	51 m	42 s	34 d	38 m	48 s
21	28 d	50 m	48 s	34 d	37 m	42 s
22	28 d	44 m	03 s	34 d	37 m	36 s
23	28 d	38 m	24 s	34 d	34 m	48 s
24	28 d	32 m	28 s	34 d	31 m	03 s
25	28 d	30 m	00 s	34 d	31 m	24 s
26	28 d	28 m	24 s	34 d	30 m	30 s
27	28 d	26 m	20 s	34 d	27 m	48 s
28	28 d	22 m	54 s	34 d	27 m	18 s
29	28 d	16 m	24 s	34 d	24 m	36 s

Sequence	Latitude (North)			Latitude (East)		
30	28 d	10 m	00 s	34 d	27 m	30 s
31	28 d	03 m	24 s	34 d	26 m	56 s
32	27 d	58 m	48 s	34 d	26 m	12 s
33	27 d	43 m	12 s	34 d	15 m	36 s
34	27 d	27 m	12 s	34 d	02 m	18 s
35	27 d	11 m	24 s	33 d	59 m	24 s
36	26 d	51 m	06 s	34 d	00 m	18 s
37	26 d	45 m	42 s	34 d	04 m	54 s
38	26 d	42 m	42 s	34 d	06 m	36 s
39	26 d	06 m	36 s	34 d	17 m	24 s
40	25 d	42 m	30 s	34 d	35 m	24 s
41	25 d	29 m	42 s	34 d	41 m	00 s
42	25 d	20 m	48 s	34 d	51 m	54 s
43	24 d	47 m	18 s	35 d	11 m	00 s
44	24 d	38 m	18 s	35 d	11 m	36 s
45	24 d	26 m	00 s	35 d	22 m	48 s
46	24 d	15 m	18 s	35 d	39 m	00 s
47	24 d	09 m	42 s	35 d	43 m	00 s
48	23 d	54 m	12 s	35 d	47 m	36 s
49	23 d	33 m	48 s	36 d	20 m	36 s
50	22 d	53 m	12 s	36 d	20 m	06 s
51	22 d	36 m	30 s	36 d	35 m	12 s
52	22 d	20 m	18 s	36 d	39 m	24 s
53	22 d	16 m	12 s	36 d	48 m	54 s
54	22 d	03 m	48 s	36 d	53 m	54 s
55	22 d	01 m	30 s	36 d	53 m	48 s
56	22 d	00 m	00 s	36 d	52 m	54 s

B. ANALYSIS The following analysis of the Egyptian straight baseline system is extracted from Limits in the Sea, No. 116, "Straight Baseline Claims: Albania and Egypt," 6 May 1994.

THE MEDITERRANEAN

Egypt has created 52 continuous straight baseline segments along its Mediterranean coast. The length of the baselines range from 0.9 miles (segment 23-24) to 29.8 miles (segment 29-30) with the average length being 10.2 miles. Thirty four of the baselines are less than 12 miles in length, 14 are between 12 and 24 miles long, and 4 segments are longer than 24 miles.

The Egyptian Mediterranean coastline, in the vicinity of claimed base points 1 (which is essentially the Egyptian-Libyan land boundary terminus) to 25, is neither deeply indented and cut into nor is it fringed with islands. Segments 25-26 and 26-27 enclosed a body of water labelled Abu Qir Bay. However, this water body does not meet the requirements, as specified in Article 10 of the LOS Convention, of a juridical bay. The well-marked indentations of a juridical bay must have an area "as large as, or larger than, that of the semi-circle whose diameter is a line drawn across the mouth of that indentation." In this situation, the two lines that close off the bay total 19.3 miles. The area inside the line must include at least 146 square nautical miles of water to qualify as a juridical bay. Only 105 square miles of water are landward of the closing lines. Thus, the baselines in this area should be the low-water line.

Continuing eastward the baseline segments connecting points 27 through 53 are situated along a coastline that is neither deeply indented nor fringed with islands. The low-water line and the pier (pt. 40) located at Port Said are the valid basepoints along this part of the coast. From the end of the pier the baseline should proceed back to the low-water and not to pt. 41. The effect of the straight baseline segments connecting points 42 through 53 on the territorial sea is minimal.

THE RED SEA (INCLUDING THE GULF OF AQABA)

Along its Sinai Peninsula coastline, facing the Gulf of Aqaba, Egypt has established 31 contiguous straight baseline segments. The length of the baseline segments range from 0.9 miles (segments 15-16 and 18-19) to 7.5 miles (segments 12-13).

Base point 1 is situated at the land boundary terminus with Israel; point 32 is on the Sinai peninsula opposite Tiran Island. The entire coastline is relatively smooth, void of any deep indentations. There are no fringing islands in the Gulf of Aqaba. The only appropriate baseline is the low-water line.

Segment 32-33, 18.2 miles in length, is drawn near the entrance to the Strait of Tiran. The segment itself is drawn in an area where the coastline has only slight curvatures, not deserving of a straight baseline segment. A small juridical bay exists near point 33.

From the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt has created 24 continuous straight baseline segments, that close off the southern entrance to the Gulf of Suez, and that extend along the Red Sea coast to the Sudan boundary area. These segments range in length from 1.7 miles (segment 55-56) to 40.5 miles (segment 49-50).

Baseline segments 33-34, 34-35, and 35-36, from the Sinai Peninsula to the Egyptian mainland close off the southern entrance to the Gulf of Suez. This is neither a deeply indented portion of Egyptian coastline, nor would these islands be considered to fringe the coast. In addition, making the Gulf of Suez internal waters is antithetical to the provisions of the Convention Respecting the Free Navigation of the Suez Canal, Constantinople, October 29, 1888. This Convention provides that "the Suez Maritime Canal shall always be free and open, in time of war and in time of peace, to every vessel of commerce or war, without distinction of flag." This was reaffirmed by Egypt in its Declaration on the Suez of April 24, 1957, and in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 118 of October 13, 1956, which provided that "there should be free and open transit through the Canal without discrimination, overt or covert--this covers both political and technical aspects.

The southeast coast of Egypt which faces the Red Sea is quite smooth with no deep indentations. A few islands are situated off this part of the coast, but they do not constitute fringing islands. Base point 49 is situated seaward of Saint Johns Islands, about 37 miles from the nearest mainland, at point 48. Portions of segment 49-50 exceed 40 miles from the mainland coast. In addition, five segments in this area exceed 24 miles in length. Thus, the straight baseline segments created by points 36 to 56 are improper. The territorial sea should be measured from the low-water line.